

BEFORE THE IDAHO STATE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

IN THE MATTER OF:)
)
IDAHO NOXIOUS WEED LAW – Purple) **TEMPORARY ORDER**
starthistle (*Centaurea calcitrapa*) and) **DESIGNATING NOXIOUS WEED**
Iberian starthistle (Centaurea iberica))

The Idaho State Department of Agriculture (“ISDA”), by and through its Director Celia R. Gould, and in accordance with Idaho Code Section 22-2404(1)(u), hereby issues this Temporary Order designating **Purple starthistle (*Centaurea calcitrapa*)** and **Iberian starthistle (*Centaurea iberica*)** as noxious weeds, and adding them to the “Early Detection/Rapid Response” list of noxious weeds in Idaho.

FINDINGS

1. ISDA and the Director of ISDA are charged with administering Idaho’s Noxious Weed Law (Title 22, Chapter 24, Idaho Code).
2. Among the specific duties assigned to the Director are the duties to determine which weeds are noxious, and compile and keep current a noxious weeds list. I.C. § 22-2403(2)(a) and (b). The noxious weeds list is published and incorporated into the Rules Governing Noxious Weeds. IDAPA 02.06.22.000 *et seq.*
3. The Director has the authority under the Noxious Weed Law, and specifically under Idaho Code Sections 22-2404(1)(r) and (u) to:
 - a. “Take any appropriate action necessary to control or quarantine noxious weed infestations whenever an actual or potential emergency situation exists concerning noxious weed infestations anywhere in the state; . . .”

b. “Temporarily designate a weed as noxious for up to fifteen (15) months, after publication in a newspaper of general circulation serving the area of infestation.”

4. In coordination with the Twin Falls County Weed Superintendent, ISDA staff inspected the site of a potential infestation of Purple or Iberian starthistle in Twin Falls County, Idaho. In addition to conducting a visual inspection, ISDA took samples. Subsequent laboratory testing confirmed the species as Purple starthistle. Therefore, ISDA has confirmed an infestation of Purple starthistle, which has not previously been found in Idaho.

5. Purple starthistle (*Centaurea calcitrapa*) is native to the Mediterranean region of southern Europe and northern Africa (Roche and Roche 1990). It was first detected in California in the late 1800s, (Robbins 1940) and has recently become established in rangeland and pasture pest as far north as the State of Washington. Purple starthistle reproduces only by seed, and can be dispersed via hay, straw, and machinery, as well as when seeds remain in dead plants, which then break off and travel in wind. See California Invasive Plant Council, “Invasive Plants of California’s Wildland,” <http://www.cal-ipc.org/ip/management/ipcw/pages/detailreport.cfm@usernumber=26&surveynumber=182.php> (last visited July 3, 2014).

6. Similarly, Iberian starthistle (*Centaurea iberica*) has not previously been found in Idaho. Iberian starthistle looks very much like its close relative Purple starthistle, and both have demonstrated that they can adapt to a variety of climates. As with most invasive *Centaurea* species, Iberian starthistle is commonly introduced along roadsides. It survives and is very competitive in low-rainfall range as well as in higher rainfall grassland areas. Oregon Department of Agriculture, “Iberian starthistle (*Centaurea iberica*),” http://www.oregon.gov/ODA/plant/weeds/Pages/profile_iberianstarthistle.aspx (last visited July 3,

2014). Iberian starthistle can be spread through livestock, hay and straw, vehicles, equipment and recreational activities.

7. Purple and Iberian starthistle are closely related, strongly resemble each other, and have similar deleterious effects. Both are non-native and highly invasive annual, biennial (although sometimes short-term perennial) plants. They have demonstrated that they are aggressive in lower bottom lands and irrigated pastures and lowlands, and have also been known to invade dry forests and grasslands.

8. Purple starthistle and Iberian starthistle differ in that Iberian starthistle seeds are topped by a crown of bristles, while Purple starthistle seeds are hairless. *See* California Invasive Plant Council, “Invasive Plants of California’s Wildland,” <http://www.cal-ipc.org/ip/management/ipcw/pages/detailreport.cfm@usernumber=26&surveynumber=182.php> (last visited July 3, 2014).

9. Purple and Iberian starthistle both have negative impacts to grazing and agriculture. Because they are competitive, they can overtake forage and other useful species. In addition, both bear sharp spines which are a deterrent to grazing animals, and livestock will not eat hay and straw that are infested with Purple or Iberian starthistle. As a result, the value of the forage decreases. The stout sharp spikes of these plants create physical barriers impacting recreationists, hunters, livestock and wildlife. Oregon Department of Agriculture, “Iberian starthistle (*Centaurea iberica*).” http://www.oregon.gov/ODA/plant/weeds/Pages/profile_iberianstarthistle.aspx (last visited July 3, 2014).

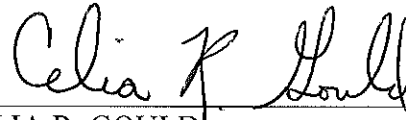
10. Purple starthistle and Iberian starthistle have the potential to become widely established in Idaho and carry significant impact to agriculture and the environment. In order to protect Idaho from the deleterious effects of Purple and Iberian starthistle, it is imperative that they

be immediately designated as noxious weed(s) in Idaho and added to the Statewide Early Detection/Rapid Response list, and that appropriate control measures be implemented.

Therefore, it is hereby ORDERED that:

1. Purple starthistle (*Centaurea calcitrapa*) and Iberian starthistle (*Centaurea iberica*) are hereby designated as noxious weeds in Idaho.
2. Purple and Iberian starthistle are hereby placed on Idaho's Statewide Early Detection/Rapid Response Noxious Weed list.
3. Possession of Purple or Iberian starthistle, including seeds, cuttings, and or propagules is prohibited in Idaho.
4. If Purple or Iberian starthistle are found to occur in Idaho, the finding must be reported to ISDA within ten days following positive identification by the University of Idaho or other qualified authority as approved by the Director. The Purple or Iberian starthistle must then be eradicated within the same growing season as that in which it is identified.
5. If any control authority, as defined in Idaho Code Section 22-2402, finds Purple or Iberian starthistle, the control authority shall, in accordance with Idaho Code Sections 22-2404, 22-2405, and 22-2406, take immediate steps to eradicate it.
6. In accordance with Idaho Code Section 22-2404(1)(u) this temporary order shall be in effect for fifteen (15) months from the date signed hereunder, unless revoked in writing by the Director of ISDA.
7. Violation of this Temporary Order may result in enforcement action, as set forth in Idaho Code Sections 22-2403, -2404, and -2409.

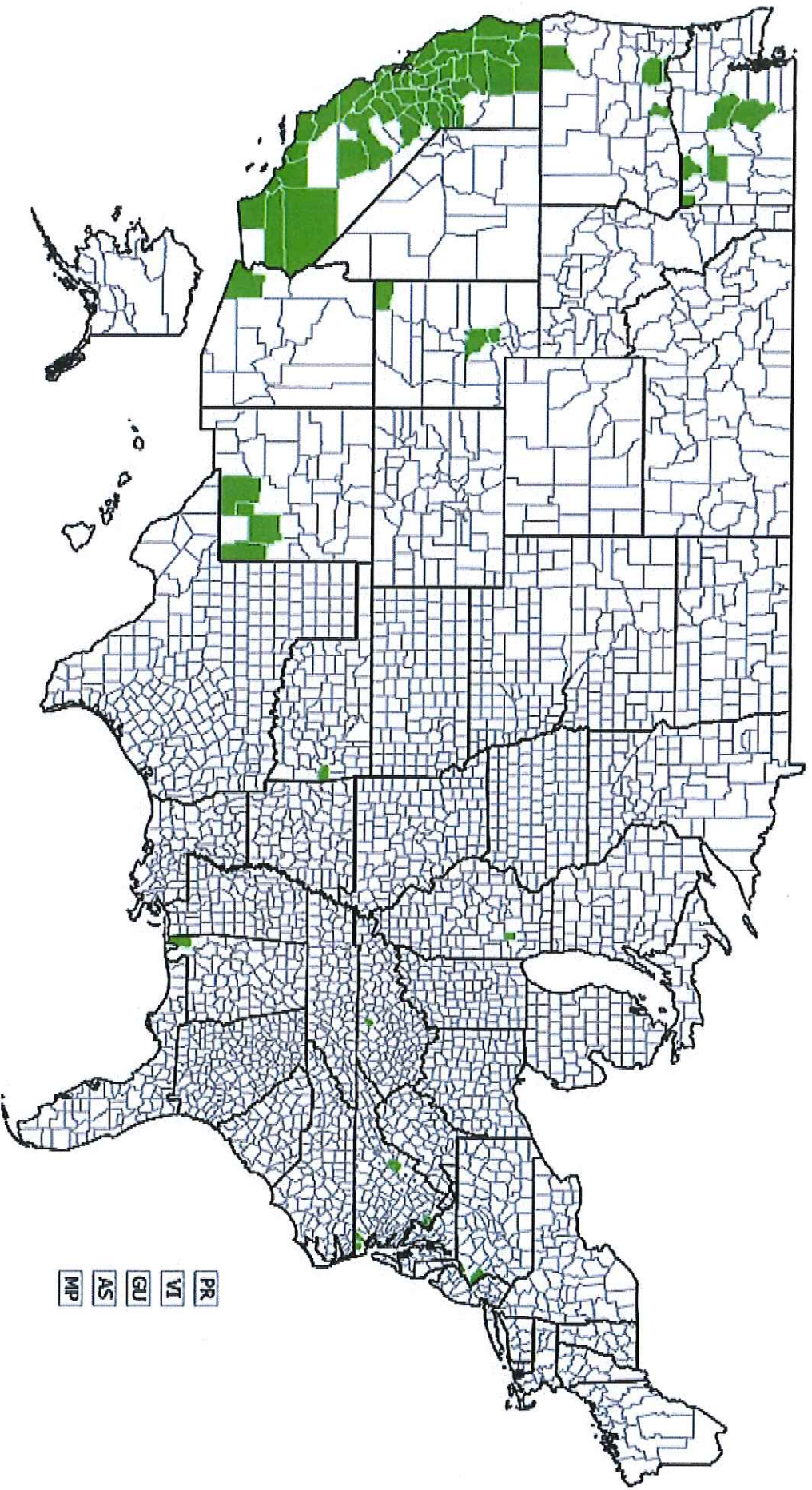
ORDERED this 7th day of July, 2014.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Celia R. Gould", written over a horizontal line.

CELIA R. GOULD
Director

Distribution Maps: State / Southeast / Points on Google Maps

Purple *Styrthisle*
Centurus californicus



Please cite the EDDMaps as:

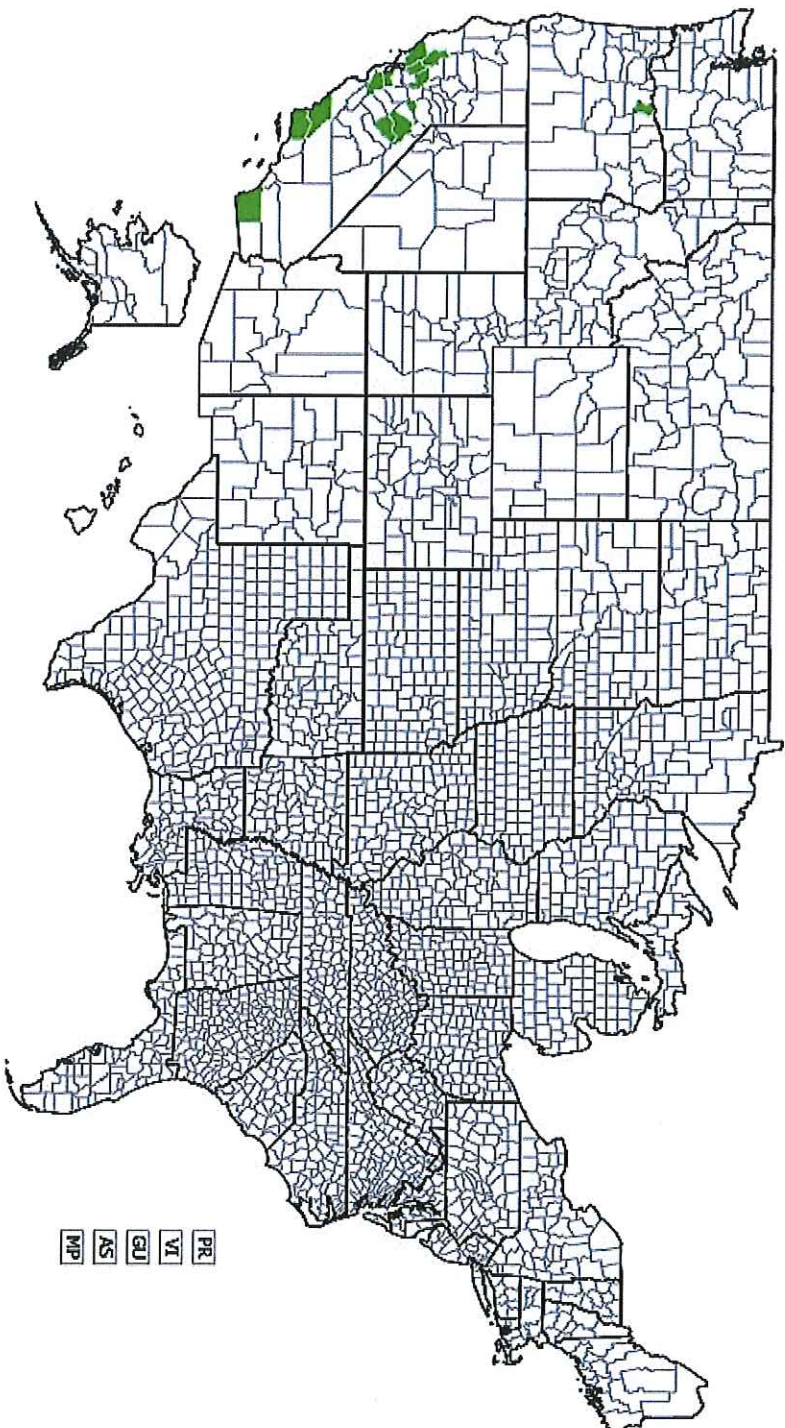
EDDMaps. 2014. Early Detection & Distribution Mapping System. The University of Georgia - Center for Invasive Species and Ecosystem Health. Available online at <http://www.eddmaps.org/>; last accessed June 26, 2014.

Iberian star-thistle

Centaurea iberica Trev. ex Spreng

USDA PLANTS Symbol: CEIB
Invasive Plant Atlas

Distribution Maps: State / Southeast / Points on Google Maps



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